

taught us anything, it should have reminded us of the central role that nuclear weapons play in strategic relationships around the world. From India and Pakistan to China, we are reminded that nothing alters the balance of power faster than a change in nuclear capability. If we do not protect our own nuclear deterrent against espionage and against aging, the security of our Nation and ideals will be threatened. We should act today when the path is clear and the time is right.

#### WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I had the great honor of taking part in the landmark White House Conference on Mental Health. This conference brought together mental health providers, consumers and people from the private sector, and our goal was to develop strategies to eliminate the existing stigmas and encourage an environment of health where people with mental illness can thrive. The conference highlighted promising practices to limit discrimination, improve prevention and treatment and explore new steps so that we can take positive direction in helping people with mental illness. The conference was downlinked to over 6,000 sites around this country, including one in Santa Barbara, California, so that communities can come together in these important issues.

Earlier this year I introduced House Resolution 133, a bipartisan resolution which currently has 100 cosponsors to focus public attention on this historic event. I was proud to have a constituent here to take part in the conference, Annmarie Cameron. She is the Executive Director of the Santa Barbara Mental Health Association, and brought her expertise from the central coast of California here to Washington, D.C. Working with the Santa Barbara Mental Health Association Board, Annmarie has been instrumental in affecting public policy on numerous issues. She has focused her considerable skills on increasing funding for mental health services, diverting persons with mental health disabilities from the criminal justice system, developing special needs housing for the homeless mentally ill. Her hands-on experience and professional expertise was a great asset to today's discussions.

I want to commend the President and especially Mrs. Tipper Gore for convening this conference. As Mental Health Policy Adviser to the President, Mrs. Gore brings knowledge and understanding of this complex subject and has devoted much of her life to raising awareness of mental health related

issues. Just recently she took the brave step of publicizing her own battle with depression and her family history of mental illness. Her work will benefit people all around the country who have so long suffered in silence.

At today's conference I cochaired a panel on the Education and Training for Health Care Providers. There were many good panels. In ours, we focused how we can train our front-line medical providers as well as teachers to spot the signs of mental illness in children and then refer them for necessary care.

As a school nurse for 20 years, I know that the signs of mental illness are sometimes difficult to detect. The people who work with our kids and young adults need to be proactive in screening for mental illness. If we detect problems earlier, we have a much better chance of giving our children a better opportunity to live a healthier life.

As we think about the school environment we provide for our children and our local communities, we are mindful of the kind of resources our young people need as they grow and develop.

School violence is the tip of the iceberg, but of course it catches our attention, and it should. I have proposed increasing the funding within the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act to provide more counselors for our middle schools. In California, we have the fewest number per student in the Nation.

At this time there are 10 million adults in our Nation who suffer serious and chronic effects from mental illness, but for years the problem of mental illness has been swept under the rug. Sadly, people in need of help fall through the cracks of our mental health system every day.

Some cases, like the shooting in the Capitol or the New York subway incident grab headlines, but this systemic failure is repeated all too often throughout our country in so many daily tragic situations for people who suffer from mental illness as well as their families, their friends, and their communities. Our goal must be to attain greater insight into the troubling nature of mental illness and formulate policies to address these needs.

Today's landmark conference was an excellent step in the right direction by engaging in meaningful dialog on these issues which affect so many Americans. We are educating ourselves. With education comes understanding, and hopefully with understanding will come treatment and relief for the millions of people and their families who suffer mental illness every day.

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#### A POSITIVE SPIN ON AN UGLY WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin). Under a previous

order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the Yugoslavian civil war, now going on for years, was near ending until NATO chose to enter on the side of the KLA seeking independence. Aggressively entering the fray by invading a foreign nation, in direct opposition to its charter, NATO has expanded the war and multiplied the casualties. The impasse now reached, although predictable, prompts only more NATO bombing and killing of innocent civilians on both sides. It is difficult to see how any good can come from this continuous march of folly, but I am going to try.

Number one, the U.N. has suffered a justified setback in its effort to be the world's governing body of the new world order, and that is good. By NATO refusing to seek a U.N. resolution of support for its war effort, it makes the U.N. look irrelevant. Now NATO is using the U.N. to seek a peace settlement by including the Russians, who agree to play the game as long as additional American tax dollars flow to them through the IMF. The U.N. looks weak, irrelevant, ignored, and used. The truth is winning out.

Number two, NATO is on the verge of self-destruction. Since the purpose of NATO to defend against a ruthless Soviet system no longer exists, that is good, NATO, in choosing to break its own rules looks totally ineffective and has lost credibility. The U.S. can get out of NATO, come home, save some money and let Europe tend to its own affairs, and we can then contribute to peace, not war.

Number three, Tony Blair's true character has now become known to the world. He has not only annoyed many Americans, but many Germans, French, Italians and Greeks as well. By Blair demanding more American bombs, money and the introduction of ground troops, many have become skeptical of his judgment. It is much easier now to challenge his influence over Bill Clinton and NATO, and that is not only good, but necessary.

Number four, more Americans every day are discovering that military spending is not equivalent to defense spending. This is a good start. It is clearly evident that when useless immoral wars are pursued, money is wasted, weapons are consumed, and national security is endangered, opposite to everything that is supposed to be achieved through defense spending. A foolish policy of foreign interventionism, no matter how much money is spent on the military, can never substitute for a sensible, pro-American policy of friendship and trade with all those countries willing to engage.

Number five, the ill-gotten war has shown once again that air power alone, and especially when pursued without a declaration of war and a determination

to win, serves no useful purpose. Although most military experts have stated this for years, it is now readily apparent to anyone willing to study the issue. Many more Americans now agree that war not fought for the defense of one's country and for the preservation of liberty is immoral and rarely brings about victory. If we remember that in the future, that would be good.

Number six, NATO's war against Yugoslavia has made it clearly apparent that world leaders place relative value on human life. This is valuable information that should be helped to restore U.S. national sovereignty. According to NATO's policy, the lives of the Kosovars are of greater value than the Serbs, Rwandans, Kurds, Tibetans, or East Timorans. Likewise, oil and European markets command more bloodshed in support of powerful financial interests than the suffering of millions in Asia and Africa. This knowledge of NATO's hypocrisy should some day lead to a fair and more peaceful world.

Number seven, the issue of whether or not a President can initiate and wage an unconstitutional war without declaration and in violation of the War Powers Resolution has prompted a positive and beneficial debate in the Congress and throughout the Nation. This is a necessary first step to get Congress to regain its prerogatives over the issue of war.

Number eight, interventionism in the affairs of other nations when our national security is not threatened serves no benefit and causes great harm. Our involvement with NATO and Yugoslavia has once again forcefully shown this. Although our Founders knew this and advised against it, and American Presidents for over 100 years acted accordingly, this rediscovery of a vital truth can serve us well in future years.

Number nine, NATO's arrogance has once again restated another truth worth remembering: Might does not make right.

Number ten, the 19 nations' military actions against a tiny state shows that alliances to promote aggression do not work. The moral high ground is not achieved because despite the pronouncements of concerns for the suffering of the innocent, when survival is not at stake and when the defense against an aggressor is not an issue, war by committee is doomed to fail. This is a lesson that needs restating.

Number 11: NATO's blundering policy ironically will leave a legacy that will allow rebuilding after the new world order disintegrates.

To the bewilderment of their own leaders NATO has forcefully supported the notion of autonomy and independence for ethnic states. Instead of huge governments demanding ethnic diversity, the goal of establishing Kosovo's independence provides the moral foundation

for an independent Kashmir Kurdistan, Palestine, Tibet, East Timor, Quebec, and North Ireland and anyone else that believes their rights as citizens would be better protected by small local government. This is in contrast to huge nation states and international governments that care only about controlling wealth, while forgetting about the needs and desires of average citizens.

12. Another lesson that will be learned from this misadventure, but unfortunately not soon enough, is that empires self-destruct out of their own weighty arrogance and blindness to the truth. Inevitably powerful empires—and it is said we are the only super power left and have great world-wide responsibilities—pursue a march of folly, a course upon which we inextricably find ourselves.

If these lessons are remembered, we will have a much better chance of achieving peace and prosperity throughout the world.

#### THE TRUE MEANING OF MEMORIAL DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, Congress has just returned from the Memorial Day recess, and it allowed, I think, every Member and all Americans to reflect upon what Memorial Day really was all about. In Staten Island and Brooklyn, which I represent, we had the great fortune of honoring our veterans, many of whom died to save us and save the world for freedom, and many of the things that came up in conversations, aside from, clearly, our support and commitment to those troops in harm's way right now, whether it be in Kosovo or Iraq, was to remind us all what it was all about. For example, those World War II veterans or veterans from Korea, Vietnam, essentially what they were fighting for was freedom, whether to bring freedom to others or to protect our own.

I think what too often we forget here in Washington is that ultimately the strengthening of personal freedom and individual liberty is really what we should be all about.

Right now, there are people back home that are paying the highest tax rates since World War II. That is just not right. There are people working two and three jobs just to put food on their table or pay for their child's education. That is not right.

What is right is that we reduce the tax burden on hard-working American people to promote economic growth and essentially allow them the freedom to spend, to save and to invest their hard-earned money as they see fit. Because there is an American spirit out there, whether it is in Staten Island or Brooklyn or anywhere across this country, that when given the right incentives, when given the right advice and guidance from the Federal Government, people will go out there and

work hard, and they will produce wonders for the American economy, and they will produce wonders for businesses, both small and large.

And you know what? Congress does not have to intervene in every little decision-making. They do not need to look to raise taxes every chance they get. We should be pursuing a course of lowering the burden, really emphasizing limited government, truly articulating the need to remember what we all really should be supporting, and that is more freedom.

Frankly, the more we tax, whether it be at the Federal level, the State level or the local level, the more freedom we take away; and if we are committed to sending the right signal, not just to the people today but to future generations, that what the American spirit is all about, the notion of personal responsibility, of coming to our shores with hope and opportunity and hard work, when you do those things, the Federal Government will not penalize you or take away the fruits of your labor, that is when we will be sending a signal that America will remain strong and free forever; and the sacrifices of those veterans, too many of whom died to preserve freedom, too many of whom died to bring freedom to others, we will remind them that they did not die in vain.

#### REPORT ON CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) and acknowledge that today we had a very momentous day. It was the first conference held by the White House on mental health and mental health issues.

I had the pleasure of cochairing the children's mental health segment, and I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that we have opened a new day. I was very pleased to have with me Dr. Schnee from Harris County, Judge Eric Andell and Gerald Womack. Dr. Schnee and Gerald Womack were representing the MHMRA, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Agency for the County of Harris.

It is very interesting to note that crises bring about ideas and collaboration. I would hope that that was not the case, but I think the fact that we have been given the opportunity now to seize this moment, that we should begin to fight mental health issues in a way that we provide more resources, more insight and action.

In our session we found many interesting points that were made, and I would like to share some of those with you. One, we need to collaborate more,